



BILLING CODE 6717-01-P
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority

Project No. 663-070

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE LICENSE APPLICATION, FILING OF PRE-APPLICATION DOCUMENT, APPROVING USE OF THE TRADITIONAL LICENSING PROCESS

- a. Type of Filing: Notice of Intent to File License Application and Request to Use the Traditional Licensing Process
- b. Project No.: 663-070
- c. Date Filed: August 11, 2016
- d. Submitted By: Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority
- e. Name of Project: Río Blanco Hydroelectric Project
- f. Location: On the Río Blanco, on the southern border of the El Yunque National Forest in the Municipality of Naguabo near the community of Florida, Puerto Rico. The project occupies 2.2 acres of United States lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service.
- g. Filed Pursuant to: 18 CFR 5.3 of the Commission's regulations
- h. Potential Applicant Contact: Indira Mohip Colón, Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority, 1110 Ponce de Leon Ave. Pda 17 ½, NEOS Building, Office#701, Santurce, PR 00936; (787) 521-4968; or e-mail at 1-MOHIP@AEEPR.COM.
- i. FERC Contact: Sarah Salazar at (202) 502-6863; or e-mail at sarah.salazar@ferc.gov.
- j. Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority filed its request to use the Traditional Licensing Process on August 11, 2016. Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority provided public notice of its request on August 11, 2016. In a letter dated October 7, 2016, the Director of the Division of Hydropower Licensing approved Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority's request to use the Traditional Licensing Process.

- k. With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or NOAA Fisheries under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR, Part 402; and NOAA Fisheries under section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.920. We are also initiating consultation with the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by section 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800.2.
- l. With this notice, we are designating the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority as the Commission's non-federal representative for carrying out informal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; and consultation pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- m. Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority filed a Pre-Application Document (PAD; including a proposed process plan and schedule) with the Commission, pursuant to 18 CFR 5.6 of the Commission's regulations.
- n. A copy of the PAD is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website (<http://www.ferc.gov>), using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in paragraph h.
- o. The licensee states its unequivocal intent to submit an application for a new license for Project No. 663. Pursuant to 18 CFR 16.8, 16.9, and 16.10 each application for a new license and any competing license applications must be filed with the Commission at least 24 months prior to the expiration of the existing license. All applications for license for this project must be filed by August 20, 2019.
- p. Register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via e-mail of new filing and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

DATED: October 7, 2016

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

